

# California State Senate

SENATE MINORITY LEADER BRIAN W. JONES  
FORTIETH SENATE DISTRICT



September 22, 2023

The Honorable Gavin Newsom  
Governor, State of California  
1021 O Street, Suite 9000  
Sacramento, CA 95814

**RE: Request for Veto of AB 1604 (Bonta)**

Dear Governor Newsom:

I respectfully request your veto of Assembly Bill 1604 (Bonta), which would make changes to the Charter School Facility Grant Program that will negatively impact how charter schools qualify for funds and how charter school properties are leased or sold.

This bill goes beyond implementing the State Auditor's recent recommendations by placing conditions on the sale of a charter school property that will make initial financing for facilities much more difficult and expensive. This will lead to students in low-income and disadvantaged communities being deprived of high-quality school facilities, further widening equity gaps.

Imposing harsh restrictions on charter school facility funding will irreparably harm charter schools and the students they serve, many of whom are children of color in poor and disadvantaged communities.

For these reasons, I respectfully request your veto.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "B. Jones".

Brian Jones  
Senate Minority Leader  
40<sup>th</sup> Senate District